

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

Favorable consideration and entry of the present amendment is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-18 are allowed.

The claims are amended to correct informalities. The informalities were uncovered in Applicants' post allowance review of the application and are being timely and diligently corrected. The informalities include the failure to underline a word or phrase added by amendment. Thus, these words and phrases were previously considered. Accordingly, no new matter is involved and no new issues are believed to be raised.

In view of the prior indication of allowability, no further issues are outstanding, and entry of the present amendment is believed to be in order and is respectfully requested so that the patent which issues from this application includes the presently submitted changes.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
MAIER & NEUSTADT, P.C.



Gregory J. Maier
Attorney of Record
Registration No. 25,599

Philip J. Hoffmann
Registration No. 46,340

Customer Number

22850

Tel: (703) 413-3000
Fax: (703) 413 -2220
(OSMMN 06/04)

I:\ATTY\ET\240321US\240321US-AMD2.DOC

Joseph Scafetta, Jr.
Registration No. 26,803